

REMARKS

Please amend the title as indicated above.

Status of the Claims

In the present Amendment, Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of Claim 17 in a continuing application.

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claim 16 will be pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claim 16 is allowable.

Response to the Examiner's Prior Art Rejection

Referring to Paragraph No. 1 at page 2 of the Office Action, Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0124259 (Kodas).

Without acquiescence in the merits of the rejection, to advance prosecution and place the application in condition for allowance, Claim 17 has been canceled. The present rejection is thus rendered moot.

Withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection of Claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local, Washington, D.C., telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/510,512 (Q83567)

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael G. Raucci/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Michael G. Raucci
Registration No. 61,444

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